

**Clean Colorado River Alliance
Meeting Notes
September 16, 2005
Flagstaff, Arizona**

Clean Colorado River Alliance Mission

Develop recommendations to address existing water quality issues to ensure Colorado River water quality meets the needs of Arizona, now and in the future.

Guest Speaker

Mike Burke, Acting Associate Director, Chesapeake Bay Program

Attendees

Fred Adler, London Bridge Marine Corp.
Dean Barlow, Lake Havasu Parks Board
Aubrey Baure, U.S. Air Force / Department of Defense REC 9
Joan Card, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Matthew Capalby, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Kathleen Carroll, City of Yuma
Susan Craig, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
V.C. Danos, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
Roger Gingrich, City of Yuma
Andy Jacobs, Regional Representative, U.S. Senator Jon Kyl
Bruce Johnson, City of Tucson Water Department
Kirk Koch, Bureau of Land Management Colorado River District
Hsin-I Lin, Arizona Department of Health Services
Jesse McFarland, McPhee Environmental Supply
Patty Mead, Mohave County Department of Public Health
Dave Merrill, D.E.M. Consulting
Gary Pasquinelli, Pasquinelli Produce
Frank Putman, Arizona Department of Water Resources
Robert Shuler, Ryley, Carlock & Applewhite
Doyle Wilson, Lake Havasu City
David "Sid" Wilson, Central Arizona Project

Welcome and Introductions

Joan Card - Water Quality Division Director, ADEQ

- Welcome and introductions
- The purpose of the meeting was discussed - Obtain information on objectives, learn about the regional approach of the Chesapeake Bay Program, receive update on pollutant workgroups' progress, review draft report, and discuss next steps
- The *Proposed Project Plan* was presented. The *Project Plan* will be finalized by September 30, 2005 and posted on the CCRA web site.

Alliance Objectives

Joan Card - Water Quality Division Director, ADEQ

The following objectives were presented to the Alliance:

- Develop a plan to create a regional approach to address Colorado River water quality problems
- Document and prioritize water quality improvement projects to be implemented
- Document funding needs and sources and identify processes to secure funding
- Develop an action plan to secure and direct funding and implement the water quality improvement projects identified

It was recommended by the Alliance that “problems” be changed to “concerns” in both the mission statement and objectives because some of the pollutants being addressed by the Alliance are potential problems or concerns, not necessarily current problems. (Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined that the word “issues” would replace “problems” in both the mission statement and objectives.) The updated *Objectives* handout can be downloaded from the CCRA web site.

Chesapeake Bay Program: A Regional Approach

Mike Burke – Acting Associate Director, Chesapeake Bay Program

Mike Burke gave a presentation titled *Restoring and Protecting Chesapeake Bay and Its Rivers – A Partnership Model for the Colorado River Watershed* which included the following information on the Chesapeake Bay Program:

- General information regarding the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Background and history of the Program - steps taken to create a regional approach
- Governance and partnerships – includes federal, state, local government, environmental organizations, private industry, universities and researchers, and concerned citizens
- Organizational structure
- Sound science and measurable results – monitoring efforts and restoration goals
- Lessons learned for the Colorado River Watershed – sound science must be a bedrock principle, broad partnerships are essential, shared responsibility results in broad leadership, numeric goals with real deadlines are necessary, transparency to the public, press, and politicians is vital
- Funding - \$20 million annual from EPA

Mr. Burke’s presentation can be downloaded from the CCRA web site.

Workgroup Reports

A representative from each pollutant group was asked to report on progress with developing Phase I of the Workgroup Pollutant Reports which includes: Pollutant Description, Sources, Water Quality Impacts, Current Mitigation Efforts. A copy of the Pollutant Workgroups table was provided and can be downloaded from the CCRA web site.

Endocrine disrupting compounds

Doyle Wilson with Lake Havasu City reported on behalf on the EDC pollutant workgroup and handed out a draft report for review by the Alliance. Several comments were provided.

Salinity/TDS

On behalf of the salinity/TDS pollutant workgroup, Joan Card, ADEQ Water Quality Division Director, reported that a preliminary draft was complete. The draft report was provided to the pollutant workgroup prior to the meeting.

Bacteria

Kirk Koch, BLM representative, reported on behalf on the bacteria pollutant workgroup and handed out a draft report for review by the Alliance. The workgroup had met a couple of times locally and Rachel Patterson was given credit for taking the lead in pulling together the draft report.

Nutrients

On behalf of the nutrients pollutant workgroup, Doyle Wilson provided an update regarding progress and handed out a draft report for review by the Alliance. The nutrients pollutant workgroup has decided, and it was agreed upon by the Alliance, that the draft workgroup pollutant report will focus specifically on nitrates.

Sediment

Joan Card reported on the sediment pollutant workgroup's progress and informed the Alliance that a preliminary draft was complete. The draft report was provided to the pollutant workgroup prior to the meeting. It was noted that she was the only representative present at the meeting from the sediment pollutant workgroup.

Metals

Kirk Koch was the only representative from the metals pollutant workgroup present at the meeting. Although some research has been done, he reported that a draft report has not been started to address metals. The Alliance will need to decide quickly the best way to handle this deficiency and who will draft the metals workgroup pollutant report.

Perchlorate

On behalf of the Perchlorate pollutant workgroup, Robert Shuler, Ryley, Carlock & Applewhite, reported on progress. A draft report was provided to the pollutant workgroup prior to the meeting. Final edits are being made.

A lot of valuable feedback was provided during the meeting. Each pollutant workgroup will submit a final draft of Phase I by September 23rd and a complete draft CCRA Report will be distributed to the Alliance on September 30th.

Draft Report

Susan Craig - Watershed Supervisor, ADEQ

The *Draft Report Format* was presented and feedback requested. Various suggestions were made and as a group, changes were made. Alliance members not present at the meeting will be provided an opportunity to review and provide feedback. The *Report Format* will be finalized by September 30, 2005 and posted on the CCRA web site.

Next Steps

Susan Craig - Watershed Supervisor, ADEQ

The *Next Steps* handout (see CCRA web site) was reviewed and milestones highlighted.

Adjourn